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*E. Joseph Savoie*  
Commissioner of Higher Education



## **BOARD OF REGENTS**

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February 27, 2002

Contact: Kim Hunter Reed

## **BOARD OF REGENTS GRANTS CONDITIONAL APPROVAL FOR FOUR-YEAR PROGRAMS AT LSU-A**

The Louisiana Board of Regents gave conditional approval today for four proposed academic programs at LSU-A, bringing the university one step closer to offering four-year degree programs. Today's approval will allow the administration at the institution to maintain their current timeline for seeking accreditation for both the new degrees and the institution's new status.

"It is our intent to do all that we can to assist LSU-A to successfully move through its transitional period. While all details regarding these new degree programs have not been resolved, we are giving our approval to allow the institution to make their request to the accreditation agency while simultaneously addressing the report recommendations of the consultants regarding the new programs," said Joseph Savoie, Commissioner of Higher Education.

The Board granted conditional approval for the following programs at LSU-A;

- C B.S. in Elementary Education
- C B.S. in Biology
- C Bachelor of Liberal Studies (Majors in business and Psychology), and
- C Bachelor of General Studies

External consultants conducted an intensive study of the proposals during an on-site visit to LSU-A on February 5-6, 2002. The review team included: Dr. Martin Jones, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, Southeast Missouri State University; Dr. Kate Harrington, Associate for Academic Affairs, University of Massachusetts President's Office; Dr. Diane Gillo, Associate Dean, College of Letters and Sciences, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point; and Dr. James Pierce, Chair, Department of Biology, Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

## **REGENTS GRANTS CONDITIONAL APPROVAL**

*The Board of Regents is an Equal Opportunity and ADA Employer*

## **ADD ONE**

University officials plan to submit their request to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACS/CoC) by March 1, 2002 in order to be considered for accreditation in Summer, 2002.

Act 402 of the 2001 Louisiana Legislature granted LSU-A the authority to offer baccalaureate degrees.

In other action today, the Board of Regents approved:

- C      A feasibility study for the establishment and support of a statewide electronic learning support center designed to address fiscal and logistical issues associated with expected growth in the electronic delivery of education and training in Louisiana.
  
- C      Alternative Certification Programs at two institutions –
  - 1. University of Louisiana - Monroe: Alternative Certification Masters Track - Grades 1-6 and Mild/Moderate Special Education, and
  - 2. Louisiana College: Practitioner Teacher Program - Grades 1-6, Grades 7-12, and Mild Moderate Special Education.Other campuses are expected to request board approval for their new alternative certification programs in the next few months.
  
- C      The distribution of emerging community college and instructional capacity pool funds and Governor Information Technology funds for the LCTCS.